

in its improvement. Congress have exercised the power coeval with the Constitution of esta

which are of no pressing necessity; and this is the proposal at a time when the country is engaged in a foreign war, and when Congress at its present session has authorized a loan or the issue of treasury notes to defray the expenses of the war, to be resorted to if the "exigencies of the Government shall require it." It would seem to be the dictate of wisdom under such circumstances to husband our means, and not to waste them on comparatively unimportant objects, so that we may reduce the loan or issue of treasury notes which may become necessary to the smallest

practicable sum. It would seem to be wise, too, to abstain from such expenditures with a view to avoid the accumulation of a large public debt, the existence of which would be opposed to the interests of the people, as well as to the genius of our free institutions.

Should this bill become a law, the principle which it establishes will inevitably lead to large and annually increasing appropriations and drains upon the treasury, for it is not to be doubted that numerous other localities not embraced in its provisions, but quite as much entitled to the same consideration, would solicit the same "bracket" will demand through the representatives in Congress, to be placed on an equal footing with them. With such an increase of expenditure must necessarily follow either an increased public debt, or increased burdens upon

the people by taxation, to supply the treasury with the means of meeting the accumulated demands upon it.

With profound respect for the opinions of Congress, and ever anxious, as far as I can consistently with my responsibility to our common constituents, to co-operate with them in the discharge of our respective duties, it is with unfeigned regret that I find myself constrained, for the reasons which I have assigned, to withhold my approval from this bill.

JAMES K. POLK.

WASHINGTON, August 3d, 1846.

*For the Enquirer.*

**GOVERNOR SMITH.**  
The Whig press of the State having indulged in some bitterness of remark upon Gov. Smith for his recent absence from the seat of Govern-

ment, and the Rockingham Register, upon such authority, having done likewise, I think it but justice to Gov. Smith to notice them.

These strictures originated in the supposed inability to obtain the Executive Proclamation to the arrest of Epes, the alleged murderer of Mumford. Now, as far as this fact is important, I find upon enquiry that the proclamation could not have been issued one hour sooner than it did in consequence of the want of proper evidence, which was called for by order of the Governor, and which did not reach the seat of Government until the day after his arrival. So much for this fact.

But, as I learn, interregnums are not uncommon.

When Gov. Smith was (to him) unexpectedly elected to his present high office, he was in the midst of an important and lucrative practice

the only means of support for his large and un-  
derprivileged family. His acceptance of the  
office testified to him by the General Assembly  
that he saw in its acceptance the necessity of  
abandonment and consequent sacrifice of his pri-  
vate and professional pursuits, and only yielded his ac-  
ceptance to the wishes of his friends whose feelings  
under the circumstances had particularly excited; thus ad-  
ding another to the many instances in which  
he had sacrificed his substantial interest to calls  
which his own social and indisciplined nature  
did not permit him to turn a deaf ear to.

Having concluded to accept the office of  
Chairman of the Finance Committee, the Execu-  
tive Committee felt with solicitude as to the  
possibility he should pursue with his existing pro-  
fessional engagements. He was strongly urged  
by some of the first men in the State not to give

his practice. He reminded that Government of some of the States, Senators and Vice President of the United States, diligently prosecute the profession, and that it was too heavy a sacrifice to give up his bread and butter for the mereance and honor of the term of office, he pursued a private career. But the Governor's respect for the dignity of office, for the prejudices of many of his fellow-citizens, and especially his anxiety, fully and faithfully to perform all his high duties devolved upon him, induced him to decline such advice, much as he might have been desirous of adopting it. But he was already under obligations to many clients, in cases, in which he could not avoid the necessity of appearing. He could not abandon such clients without their consent. Yet, anxious to contract the circle of his operations, and rapidly to disengage himself

"A CARD.—In consequence of my election as Governor of this Commonwealth, I shall have to decline new business in the line of my profession. But the business on hand at this time of my departure will receive such attention as will protect the interests of my clients. In the mean time my friend T. L. MOORE, Esq., in whose ability and attention I have every confidence, and my son JAS. C. SMITH, will take charge of the business; to whom my clients will apply for counsel and assistance. I will attend the Superior Court of this county until this business is closed.

"February 6. Wm. Smith.

In prosecution of this purpose, he wholly gave up his Prince William County—he attended part of one Culpeper Court—part of two Courts in Rappahannock—part of two County Courts in Stafford—and part of one Superior Court in Fauquier—only winding up his business, professional and otherwise, with anxious eagerness and industry, that he might at an early day give his whole attention to the public service. This consummation is at hand. In October, Governor Smith expects with his family to be settled in the City of Richmond, by which time he hopes to have his business matters arranged, so that he can leave them without anxiety.

Now, what is there wrong? What unreasonable demands are made upon his talents and his time?

In this I elected in December, 1860, I was last, and I am now, who voted for Governor Smith's expectation of desire that he should leave his plough in the furrow—abandon his private business to enter ruin, and break his subsistence engagements? Certainly the people did not expect or desire it, and I do not believe a single member of the Assembly did.

It is a great mistake to suppose that Governor Smith does not appreciate as he should, the honor done him by his election, but he never sought nor does he hold his honors with the Government, and the Revenue Service, which he has chosen to resign his office, if his private circumstances will not allow him to perform his public duties. The Governor can, without difficulties and without retail, retire to private life, and it is only requisite to satisfy him, my life upon it, that

such is the wish of his party, and he will do so without hesitation. For five and twenty years William Smith has been actively concerned in the politics of his State. He has been a public life of long reputation, and a leader of his party, and against the oppressor, and is perfectly willing to drag up into the ranks at the bidding of that party which he called him from his retirement. But I am satisfied that Gov. Smith would *never* have expected that the *Rockingham Register*, knowing him as the editors of that paper do, would have joined in the cry against him.

In conclusion, the Governor is gratified to believe that the public service has in no wise suffered by his absence. He has taken no more time to wind up his private affairs than many of his predecessors, no more than is reasonable and necessary, than will be sanctioned and sus-

I have deemed this notice due to justice and my regard for Gov. Smith, and I claim of these papers, in the name of justice and fair dealing who published attacks against him, to publish this answer to them.

A VOICE FROM A FRIEND.

We understand that Robert C. Grier, of Pennsylvania, was yesterday nominated by the President to supply the vacancy on the Bench of the Supreme court occasioned by the death of Judge Baldwin. — [National Intelligencer.

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**FAMILY GROCERY.**  
**Removal.**  
THE subscriber respectfully informs his friends

1 and the public that he has removed his Grocery Store to the granite front building on the South corner of Main and 9th streets, recently occupied as a coach manufactory, by Mr. James Boshier, where he is prepared to order to his friends and the public generally a large and well selected assortment of **FAMILY GROCERIES**, which he will sell on the most reasonable terms. He begs leave to say to his Country friends, that he will sell on the usual Commission all kinds of Produce that they may confide to his care.

WM. W. DABNEY,  
Corner of Main and 9th streets.

June 9—~~ed~~m